

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2007

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS NICOSIA 2260

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, TU, CY

SUB: REACTION TO SISCO TESTIMONY

REF: STATE 169027

1. JULY 10 STATEMENT BY UNDER SECRETARY SISCO REPORTED IN GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS OF JULY 11. ONE FURTHER PRESS REACTION APPEARED JULY 16. REPORTING GENERALLY CONSISTED OF ARTICLES SUMMARIZING STATEMENT, INCLUDING THESE SUMMARIZATIONS IN LARGER STORIES CONCERNING THE AID TO TURKEY QUESTION.

2. COMMUNIST HARAVGHI OF JULY 11 FEATURES TESTIMONY AS FIRST THIRD OF LARGE STORY CONCERNING US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. THIS SECTION OF ARTICLE READS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: SISCO DOES NOT GUARANTEE TURKISH FLEXIBILITY EVEN IF AID IS RESUMED; NOR COULD HE OFFER AN EXPLANATION WHY ANKARA HAS MADE NO CONCESSION TO DATE ON CYPRUS; TERRIBLE PRESSURE FROM THE CIA, PENTAGON, TURKS AND ISRAELIS. WASHINGTON, JULY 10. A HIGH OFFICIAL OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT DECLARED TODAY THAT IT CANNOT BE GUARANTEED THAT TURKEY WILL FOLLOW A MORE FLEXIBLE STANCE TOWARD THE CYPRUS PROBLEM IF THE AMERICAN (LINE DELETED FROM PAPER)... CONGRESS SUPPORTS THE EMBARGO OF SHIPMENT OF ARMS.

SPEAKING TODAY BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE  
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE AMERICAN UNDERSECRETARY FOR POLITICAL

AFFAIRS MR. SISCO ADDED THAT "FAILURE ON THE PART OF TURKEY TO ADOPT A FLEXIBLE AND CONSTRUCTIVE POSITION, IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE EMBARGO, WOULD GO TO THE HEART OF AMERICAN-TURKISH RELATIONS." NO SIMPLE ANSWER CAN BE GIVEN, HE CONTINUED, TO THE QUESTION ASKED BY SOME CONGRESSMEN AS TO WHY TURKEY HAS NOT AS YET MADE SOME CONCESSIONS, EVEN SECRETLY, BEFORE CONGRESS LIFTS THE EMBARGO. MR. SISCO STATED THAT THE INTERRUPTION OF AID RESULTED IN THE CREATION OF TENSION IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY CONCERNING CYPRUS AND THE DECREASE OF AMERICAN INFLUENCE IN THE EFFORT TO PROMOTE THE TALKS FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT FOR CYPRUS.

IN ANOTHER PART OF HIS SPEECH MR. SISCO DISCLOSED THAT THE UNITED STATES PROPOSED THE SHIPMENT OF CERTAIN ARMS TO TURKEY, DESPITE THE BAN IMPOSED BY CONGRESS, BUT TURKEY REJECTED THE OFFER, CONSIDERING THE SUBJECT TO BE A MATTER OF RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. END QUOTE

3. CLERIDES' AGON CARRIES STORY UNDER TITLE "DEMIREL APPROVES THE FORD EFFORTS", WITH EXTRACTS OF SISCO'S STATEMENT REFERRING TO ADOPTION OF COMPROMISE ARMS PLAN AS NECESSARY TO EASE TENSION IN EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. "MR. SISCO COULD NOT GUARANTEE THAT TURKEY WILL NEGOTIATE ON PEACE IN CYPRUS IN EXCHANGE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE COMPROMISE. HOWEVER, PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER ARE DETERMINED TO USE AMERICAN INFLUENCE TO REACH CONSTRUCTIVE RESULTS."

SAMPSON'S MACHI REPORTS STORY UNDER HEADLINE "HARD BATTLE WILL BE GIVEN ON THE FORD PLAN". LYSSARIDES' TA NEA HEADLINES "HARD BATTLE HAS BEEN STARTED FOR THE COMPROMISE PROPOSAL". RIGHTIST MESIMVRINI DECLARES "INTENSIVE DELIBERATIONS IN THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE...MR. SISCO HAS STATED THAT THE 184 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF ARMS WILL BE SOLD TO TURKEY AND NOT 78 MILLION AS STATED BY MR. FORD YESTERDAY..."

4. TESTIMONY WAS NOT CITED SPECIFICALLY IN EDITORIALS EITHER JULY 11 OR LATER. HOWEVER, SISCO'S STATEMENTS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN FED INTO THEMES OF EDITORIALS ON AN UNATTRIBUTED BASIS. CRAWFORD

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